RESOLUTION NO. 091-21

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
THE CITY OF EL CAJON, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING
VISUALIZATION STATE ASSEMBLY, STATE SENATE, AND CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT MAPS PROPOSED BY THE
CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION AND
ENDORSING ALTERNATIVE MAPS FROM ESCONDIDO
AND LAKESIDE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

WHEREAS, the 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission (the "CRC") is proposing and eventually adopting district boundaries for state-wide elected office; and

WHEREAS, those state-wide offices include State Assembly, State Senate, and federal Congressional seats; and

WHEREAS, the CRC is conducting various public input sessions and is currently taking public comments on proposed maps which will help them determine the best maps to represent Californians; and

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2021, the CRC released conceptual or visualization district maps that include all or part of the City of El Cajon, i.e., for Assembly ("VAD_WSDC_1107"), Senate ("VSD_SESDCEC_1107"), and Congressional ("VCD_SESDELC_1107" and "VCD_SMESCPOW_1107", together, the "CRC Visualization Maps") offices; and

WHEREAS, the maps show a clear failure of CRC to understand communities of interest in east San Diego County, the result of which is to split up traditional areas within this important sub-region, thereby failing to ensure the protection of minority rights; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of El Cajon, at its October 26, 2021, November 9, 2021, and November 16, 2021 meetings has discussed the CRC Visualization maps and districting process; and

WHEREAS, the Escondido Chamber of Commerce and the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce have drafted alternative maps for CRC consideration and those maps have been reviewed by the City Council at its November 16, 2021 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL CAJON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of El Cajon opposes each of the CRC Visualization Maps on the basis that each of the maps violates both the federal Voting Rights Act and the California Voting Rights Act, by (a) breaking up historically connected communities, which share a common interest as rural communities; (b) separating residents in east San Diego County who have relocated in the City of El Cajon as well as surrounding communities as refugees from countries in the Middle East (e.g., from Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Syria, etc.); (c) ignoring the reality that east San Diego County is

served by one public high school district, two public water districts, a single 911 fire and emergency dispatch organization, one hospital district, and other connecting factors that make sense for east San Diego County to have unified voices in Sacramento and Washington D.C., by being connected through the same assembly, state, and congressional districts; and (d) failing to meet the legal requirements for compaction in order to ensure the protection of minority rights in east San Diego County and the City of El Cajon.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of El Cajon hereby endorses the draft maps prepared by the Escondido Chamber of Commerce and the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce because they consider those communities of interest in east San Diego County described in Section 1, above, achieve proper compaction with the avoidance of gerrymandering, and are in compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act and the California Voting Rights Act, and better ensure the protection of minority rights in state and federal elections.

<u>Section 3</u>. The City Council of the City of El Cajon hereby encourages all residents of the City of El Cajon and the residents of east San Diego County to provide public comments to the 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission expressing similar concerns as outlined above in this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Cajon, California, at an Adjourned Regular Joint City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Meeting held this 16th day of November 2021, by the following vote to wit:

AYES

Goble, Kendrick, Metschel, Ortiz, Wells

NOES

None

ABSENT

None

DISQUALIFY:

None

BILL WELLS

Mayor of the City of El Cajon

ATTEST:

ANGELA L. CORTEZ, CMC

City Clerk

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a full and true copy of Resolution No. 091-21 of the Resolutions of the City of El Cajon, California, as adopted by the City Council at the Adjourned Regular Joint Meeting of the City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency on the 16th day of November 2021.

Angela L. Cortez, CMS, City Clerk

CC Agenda 11/16/21

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